

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Method for prophylaxis or treatment of cancer cachexia in an individual in need of thereof, comprising administration to said individual of a Use
~~of a ghrelin-like compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for the preparation of a medicament for the prophylaxis or treatment of cancer cachexia in an individual in need of such treatment,~~

wherein the ghrelin-like compound comprises a structure defined by formula I

$Z^1 - (X^1)_m - (X^2) - (X^3)_n - Z^2$, wherein

Z^1 is an optionally present protecting group

each X^1 is independently selected from an amino acid, wherein said amino acid is selected from the group consisting of naturally occurring and synthetic amino acids,

X² is any amino acid selected from the group consisting of naturally occurring and synthetic amino acids, said amino acid being modified with a bulky hydrophobic group, ~~preferably an acyl group, or a fatty acid,~~

each X³ is independently selected from an amino acid, wherein said amino acid is selected from the group consisting of naturally occurring and synthetic amino acids,

wherein one or more of X¹ and X³ optionally may be modified with a bulky hydrophobic group, ~~preferably an acyl group, or a fatty acid,~~

Z² is an optionally present protecting group,

m is an integer in the range of from 1-10

n is 0 or an integer in the range of from 1-35,

and wherein:

- (a) said ghrelin-like compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is 27-28 amino acids in length, with the proviso that said ghrelin-like compound is at

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least 80 % homologous to SEQ ID NO 1, such as at least
85 % homologous to SEQ ID NO: 1

and/or

(b) said ghrelin-like compound is at least 90 % homologous
to SEQ ID NO 1.

2. (Currently Amended) The method ~~use~~ according to
claim 1, wherein said ghrelin-like compound is at least 95 %
homologous to SEQ ID NO 1.

3. (Currently Amended) The method ~~use~~ according to
claim 1, wherein said ghrelin-like compound is at least 98 %
homologous to SEQ ID NO 1.

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Currently Amended) The method ~~use~~ according to
claim 1, ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein X² is selected
from the group consisting of modified Ser, modified Cys and
modified Lys, ~~such as wherein X² is modified Ser.~~

6. (Currently Amended) The method ~~use~~ according to claim 1, ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the ghrelin-like compound is selected from a compound of

formula II $Z^1 - \text{Gly} - (X^1)_{m-1} - (X^2) - (X^3)_n - Z^2$,

formula III $Z^1 - \text{Gly} - \text{Ser} - (X^2) - (X^3)_n - Z^2$, and

formula IV $Z^1 - \text{Gly} - (X^2) - (X^3)_n - Z^2$.

7.-12. (Cancelled).

13. (Currently Amended) The method ~~use~~ according to claim 1, wherein the ghrelin-like compound is ghrelin or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

14. (Currently Amended) The method ~~use~~ according to claim 1, wherein the ghrelin-like compound has SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, or SEQ ID NO: 3.

15. (Currently Amended) The method ~~use~~ according to claim 1, ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the medicament is in a formulation for subcutaneous administration.

16. (Currently Amended) The method ~~use~~ according to claim 1, ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the formulation comprises the ghrelin-like compound or a salt thereof as a lyophilisate and the formulation further comprises a solvent, said lyophilisate and said solvent being in separate compartments until administration.

17. (Currently Amended) The method ~~use~~ according to claim 1, ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the formulation is a solution of the ghrelin-like compound or a salt thereof.

18. (Currently Amended) The method ~~use~~ according to claim 16 ~~or 17~~, wherein the solvent is saline.

19. (Currently Amended) The method ~~use~~ according to claim 1, ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the medicament is administered prior to or during a meal.

20. (Currently Amended) The method ~~use~~ according to claim 1, ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the medicament is administered in a concentration equivalent to from 10 ng to 10 mg ghrelin per kg bodyweight.

21. (Cancelled).

22. (Currently Amended) The method ~~use~~ according to claim 1, ~~21~~, wherein the medicament is administered in a concentration equivalent to from 0.1 μ g to 1 mg ghrelin per kg bodyweight, ~~such as from 0.5 μ g to 0.5 mg ghrelin per kg bodyweight, such as from 1.0 μ g to 0.1 mg ghrelin per kg bodyweight, such as from 1.0 μ g to 50 μ g ghrelin per kg bodyweight, such as from 1.0 μ g to 10 μ g ghrelin per kg bodyweight.~~

23. (Currently Amended) The method ~~use~~ according to claim 1, ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the medicament is administered as a bolus prior to or during a meal, said bolus comprising an amount of the ghrelin-like compound or a salt thereof equivalent to from 0.3 μ g to 600 mg ghrelin.

24.-26. (Cancelled).

27. (Currently Amended) The method ~~use~~ according to claim 1, ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the cancer cachexia is caused by a catabolic disorder.

28. (Currently Amended) The method ~~use~~ according to claim 1, ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the cancer cachexia is caused by an anorectic disorder.

29. (Currently Amended) The method ~~use~~ according to claim 1, ~~any of the preceding claims~~, where the individual is suffering from a cancer selected from the group consisting of lung cancer, pancreatic cancer, liver cancer, and GI tract cancers.

30. (Cancelled).

31. (Currently Amended) The method ~~use~~ according to claim 1, ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the treatment or prevention of cancer cachexia leads to stimulation of appetite, stimulation of food intake, stimulation of weight gain or weight maintenance, and/or increased body fat mass.

32. (Cancelled).

33. (Currently Amended) A method for preventing or treating cancer, comprising administering to an individual in need thereof an effective amount of a ghrelin-like compound

~~secretagogue as defined in any of claims 1-14,~~ in combination with an anti-neoplastic treatment.

34. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 33, wherein the antineoplastic treatment is radiotherapy.

35. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 33, wherein the antineoplastic treatment is chemotherapy.

36. (Cancelled).

37. (Previously Presented) A method for preventing or treating cachexia, comprising administering to an individual in need thereof an effective amount of a ghrelin-like compound and an effective amount of a NSAID medicament.

38. (Cancelled).

39. (Currently Amended) A method for stimulation of appetite in an individual, comprising administering to the individual a subcutaneous dosage of a medicament comprising
~~Use of~~ a ghrelin-like compound or a pharmaceutically

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acceptable salt thereof ~~for the preparation of a medicament,~~
in a formulation for subcutaneous administration, ~~for~~
~~stimulation of appetite in an individual by administering a~~
~~subcutaneous dosage of said medicament to the individual,~~

wherein the ghrelin-like compound comprises a structure
defined by formula I

$Z^1 - (X^1)_m - (X^2) - (X^3)_n - Z^2$, wherein

Z^1 is an optionally present protecting group

each X^1 is independently selected from an amino acid,
wherein said amino acid is selected from the group
consisting of naturally occurring and synthetic amino acids,

X^2 is any amino acid selected from the group consisting of
naturally occurring and synthetic amino acids, said amino
acid being modified with a bulky hydrophobic group,
~~preferably an acyl group, or a fatty acid,~~

each X^3 is independently selected from an amino acid,
wherein said amino acid is selected from the group
consisting of naturally occurring and synthetic amino acids,

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wherein one or more of X^1 and X^3 optionally may be modified with a bulky hydrophobic group, preferably an acyl group, or a fatty acid,

Z^2 is an optionally present protecting group,

m is an integer in the range of from 1-10

n is 0 or an integer in the range of from 1-35.

40. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Use~~ according to claim 39, wherein the ghrelin-like compound ~~is as defined in any of claims 1-14.~~ has SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, or SEQ ID NO: 3.

41.-42. (Cancelled).

43. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Use~~ according to claim 39, ~~any of claims 39 to 42,~~ wherein the medicament is administered ~~as defined in any of claims 19-26.~~ in a concentration equivalent to from 10 ng to 10 mg ghrelin per kg bodyweight.

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44. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Use~~ according to claim 39, ~~any of claims 39 to 43~~, wherein said individual is suffering from lipodystrophy.